

453

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	50X1
SUBJECT	Construction of Underground Naval POL Base near Stalin	DATE DISTR.	14 March 1955	
		NO. OF PAGES	5	
DATE OF INFO.	<input type="text"/>	REQUIREMENT NO.	<input type="text"/>	50X1
PLACE ACQUIRED	<input type="text"/>	REFERENCES		
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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STATE #	X	ARMY #	X	NAVY #	X	AIR #	X	FBI #		AEC						
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")																

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REPORT NO. [redacted]

50X1

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 21 Feb. 1955

SUBJECT Projected Construction of an Underground Naval POL Base near Stalin

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE OF INFORMATION [redacted]

REFERENCES:

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PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Background Information of the Project

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1. In May 1953, the Bulgarian Ministry of National Defense ordered PRONO to draw up the construction plans for an underground POL base at Stalin (formerly Varna) with an approximate total of 15,000 to 20,000 cu m capacity. With Engineer Sotirov (fnu), considered one of the most capable mechanical engineers in Bulgaria, [redacted] compute the material requirements, costs, and specifications. After several days of computing these material requirements, [redacted] estimates were forwarded to the 35470 Military Branch of the Office of Capital Construction (35470 Voennoe Podvelyennie Capitallio Stroitelstvo). This office, a subsidiary of the Ministry of National Defense, was responsible for supplying materials for state projects. 50X1
2. Although PRONO worked under pressure from the Ministry of National Defense to expedite these plans, [redacted] in August 1953 [redacted] the project was temporarily postponed by the Council of Ministers because of insufficient funds. 1 [redacted] but Engineer Sotirov continued to work on it. He was still working on the project in September 1954 and is believed to be working on it at the present time. 50X1
3. Although the plans for the project were formulated and planning continued throughout 1954, no construction took place at the projected POL site at Stalin. It is believed that construction will begin sometime in 1956 and that at least two years will be needed to complete the project. Source believes that this project will probably be the largest naval POL base in Bulgaria. 50X1

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- 2 -

Location of the Projected Site

4. This project was labeled "top secret" (strogo sekretno). [] the base was to be built "near" Stalin on the Black Sea. The only information [] which would help to pinpoint its exact site was the fact that this POL base will be located three to four kilometers away from a main railroad track. Construction plans called for the laying of a three to four kilometer railroad spur which would connect the POL base with the main railroad. See page 4, Point 5, which shows this railroad spur. 50X1
5. [] did not know where to indicate north [] the direction given was probably correct. 50X1
[] because plans were generally drawn up with the top or the paper usually indicating north.

Technical Equipment and Suppliers

6. [] a preliminary estimation of materials required for this project, [] the following items (all quantities and specifications are approximate):

Item	Specification	Quantity
POL Pumps	50 cu m/hr	6 each
Oil Pumps	Cog wheel-type	4 each
Pipes (seamless)	From 2 to 8 in. in diameter	2,000 m
Laminated Steel Plates	4-12 mm thickness	unknown
Ventilators which were to be installed by every POL tank and pumping station.	6,000 - 7,000 cu m/hr	14
Steam boilers to warm oil in the wintertime and make it more fluid.	150 sq m, 7 atmospheres	2
Diesel electro-station, a reserve unit to be used only in the event of power failures from the main electrical supply net.	200 kw	unknown

Laminated Steel Plates

- a. Based on past experience with POL construction projects elsewhere in Bulgaria, all laminated steel plates for POL cisterns were imported from the Soviet Union. These plates were always welded together at the construction site.

Steam Boilers

- b. All steam boilers for POL projects were produced at the Georgiy Kirkov Boiler Construction Plant in Sofia. 2

Pumps, Gauges, Pipes, Ventilators

- c. These items were imported from Czechoslovakia through HEFA, a Prague POL-construction firm.

Site Layout

7. See page 4, [] sketch of the situation plan of the projected naval POL base near Stalin on the Black Sea. This sketch 50X1

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- 3 -

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is based [redacted] rough plans [redacted] At the time [redacted] this plan at PRONO in May 1953, it was incomplete and very roughly plotted. Therefore, the location of the various installations on this sketch are relative and only approximate.

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1. Ten POL cisterns, each with an approximate 2,000 cu m capacity. These cisterns were to be used for storing kerosene, benzine, naptha, and oil; they were to be built underground at an unknown depth.
2. A boiler house which was to contain two steam boilers, 150 sq m each with eight atmospheres of pressure, for warming the naptha and the oil; coal was to be used for heating water. This boiler-house will be above-ground and will probably be the only visible construction of the entire POL project.

- a. Underground chimney and chimney
- b. Part of a chimney above-ground.

3. A mechanical workshop for repairs. [redacted] whether or not this shop would be built above the ground.

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4. Three oil tanks, each with a capacity of 50 cu m.

5. A railroad spur to be built to connect the POL site with a main railroad line located three or four kilometers away. [redacted] POL would be supplied by both rail and water.

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6. An unknown number of fuel shafts with valve controls.

7. A road.

8. The coastline of the Black Sea.

9. A pier which [redacted] was already in existence.

- a. A beeth for storage of a mobile pump to be used for POL intake from supply boats.

10. Underground POL pumping station.

11. Ethylization station with a storage tank for ethylizing fluids.

12. A station used for regulating the direction of the POL flow.

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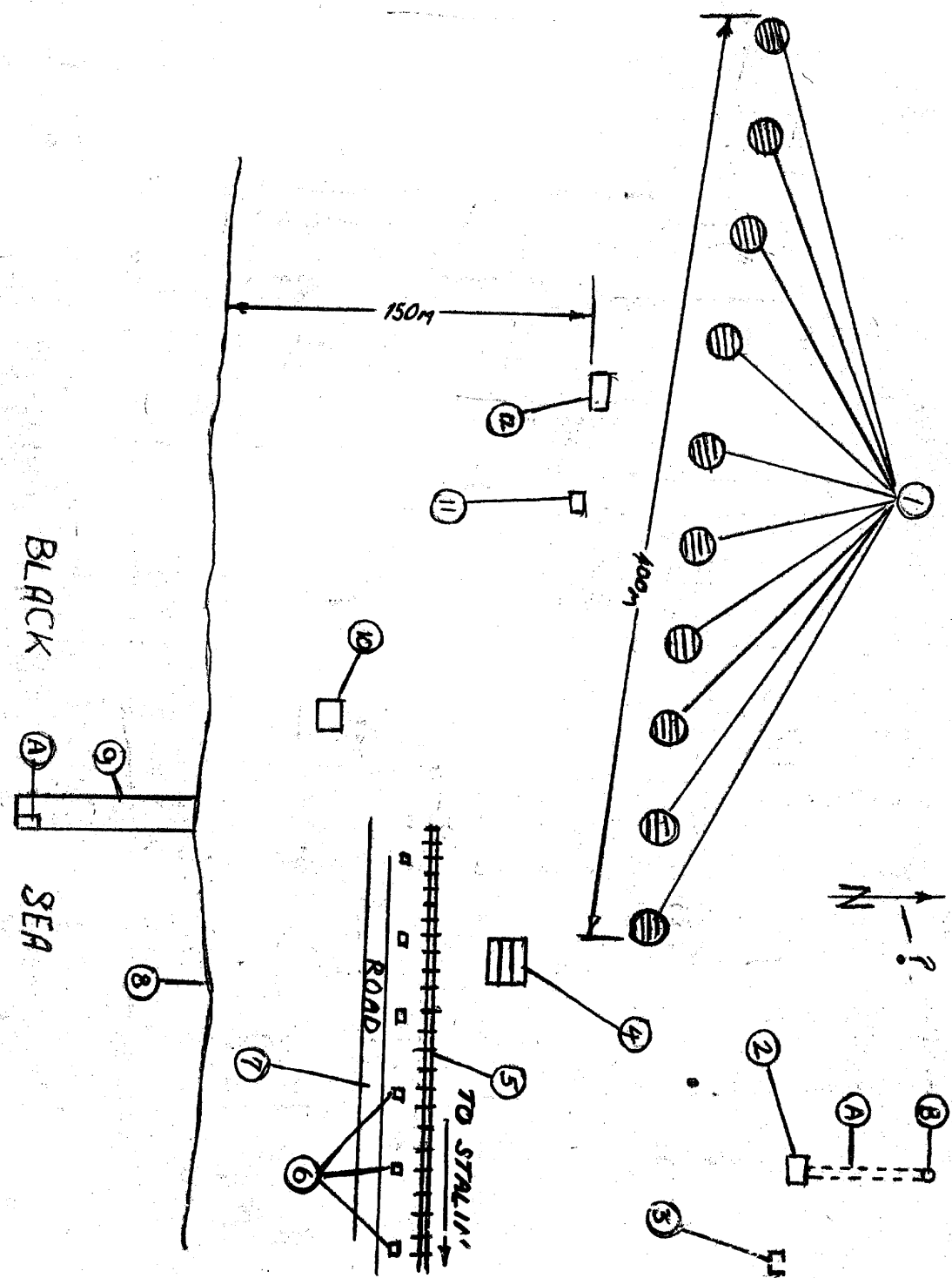
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50X1

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- 4 -

50X1

sketch of plan of projected
naval POL base near Stalin on the
Black Sea.



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